[Shri Mentay Padmanabham]

be started in June. Later on it was postponed to July. Later on again it was postponed to some other date. I would like to know from the Railway Minister when re is going to introduce it because it will connect the North and the South. We are very much interested in these trains. I have been 5.00 P.M.
requesting both the Cabinet Railway Minister as well as the Minister of State for Railways for AC 2-Tier compartments in one or two Express trains. They are not able to do it. For the last one and a half years or two years they have not been able to introduce it. I hav also been requesting them to provide one AC 2-Tier compartment in the Sarita Express, which runs from Kakinada to Madras. They have not been able to provide that also. What are the reasons for all this? Are there really any handicaps? I would like to know whether they are really interested in giving these services to the railway travelling public? These are the things which I would like to know from the hon. Minister.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI M.A. BABY): There are two more speakers. The Minister also has to reply. One name is there for the third reading. At 5 o' clock the Minister is to make a statement. It is 5 o'clock now. So, I would like to hear from the Parliamentary Affairs Minister.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M. M. JACOB): We have to complete the discussion on the Railways, but anyway the Statement can be made now. Clarifications can be postponed. At 5.30 the Prime Minister is also coming to make a statement. I have also been given time for another statement. In between after the statements the speeches can continue. Both of us can complete the statement part now.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI M. A. BABY): But what about the Railways?

SHRI M. M. JACOB: We can continue in between.

SHRI S. VIDUTHALAI VIRUMBI (Tamil Nadu): What about the clarifications?

SHRI MOHAMMED AFZAL alias MEEM AFZAL: There is a half-an-hour discussion also.

SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN (Tamil Nadu): This can be postponed till Monday. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI M. M. JACOB: That is why I suggested let us now have both the statements now. The Railpay Minister will...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI M. A. BABY): Are the Members prepared to forego their right to seek clarifications?

SHRI VIDUTHALAI VIRUMBI: No. We can postpone it. Let him make the statement. We can postpone clarifications till Monday. Let the Railway debate continue.

## STATEMENT BY MINISTER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. R. KUMARAMANGALAM): Sir, I am delighted to inform the Honourable Members of the House that the first indigenously built second generation multipurpose geostationary satellite, INSAT-2A has been successfully placed in its orbital position and all the payloads have been switched on.

The 1906 Kg satellite was successfully launched by the Arianoc launch vehicle on 10th July 1992 and was injected into a geostationary transfer orbit. Immediately followlng the launch several critical manoeuvres have been carried out using the systems on board the satellite. The

satellite was commanded from the INSAT Master Control Facility at Hassan in Karnataka. The satellite was first placed in a near geosynchronous orbit, 36,000 KM above the earth, by firing the liquid apogee motor. Then the Spacecraft was allowed to move slowly towards its final orbital position at 74 Degree East longitude and all the deployments were carried out. INSAT-2A achieved its full in-orbit configuration ahead of schedule, on account of the excellent performance of all the systems on-board.

While the satellite was drifting towards its final orbital position, the critical deployment of the solar array was first done. Then the two large antennas on either side of the spacecraft were released and this was followed by the controlled release and latch up of the solar boom and sail. All the deployments took place flawlessly and without any hitch. The Spacecraft was then placed in the three-axis stabilised configuration using the momentum wheels. The payload switch commenced on 27th July. Since then all the payloads on this unique multipurpose satellite have been switched on, one by one, and have been found to be functioning normally. Trim manoeuvres were carried out and the satellite was positioned at its parking alot on 31st July, 1992.

INSAT-2A carries 18 C-band transponders including six in extended C-band, 2 higher power S-band transponders a very High Resolution Radiometer for meteorological imaging, a Data Relay Transponder and a Search and Rescue payload. A series of extensive checks and characterisation of all the payloads has been carried out and Spacecraft is ready for operational traffic. Phased loading of traffic in the C-band transponders commenced on 6th August, 1992 and eight transponders have already been loaded by transferring all services from the transponders leased from ARABSAT. The Meteorological Data Utilisation Centre of India Meteorological Department has started receiving the cloud cover imageries and reports from the Data Collection Platforms.

INSAT-2A will add capacity to the INSAT system for more long distance telecommunications circuits, business networks, teleconferencing, national and regional TV networks, messaging and data networks. The Search and Rescue Payload is a new feature which will instantaneously detect distress alerts over a vast region around India for taking appropriate rescue measures.

INSAT-2A is a complex and state-of-the art spacecraft, and has been entirely designed and built in India with minimal imported parts and components. I am sure that Members of the House would join me in conveying our deep appreciation and heartiest congratulations to all the Scientists, Engineers, Technicians and others of the Indian Space Research Organisation and the Department of Space for the great success that they have achieved in making available INSAT-2A for national services. The country can be justifiably proud of this magnificent achievement.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI M. A. BABY): We are not seeking clarifications now. It will be done later on. But I think the House will agree with me to convey the heartiest congratulations of the Upper House to the Scientists, Engineers, Technicians and others of the Indian Space Research Organisation and the Department of Space for the remarkable success that they have achieved.

Now there is another statement by Shri M. M. Jacob. This is also another success.

**STATEMENT BY MINISTER—**

**Encounter between the police and the terrorist on 11th August, 1992 in Pachim Vihar Delhi.**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M. M. JACOB): Sir, I wish to apprise the Hon'ble Members of this august House about the encounter that took place between the police and